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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/225,499 01/06/99 LORIA

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EXAMINER

HM12/0312

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1614
DATE MAILED:

03/12/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/225,499

Applicant
Loria

Examiner
Jerome D. Goldberg

Group Art Unit
1614



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 24, 2001

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 15-20 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 15-20 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 9 & 15

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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The request filed on January 24, 2001 for a Continues Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53 (d) based on parent Application No. 09/255,499 is acceptable and a CPA has been established. An action on the CPA follows.

Claims 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 15-20 fails to recite the amount of the active compound in the pharmaceutical carrier (~~of~~ an effective amount). Without an amount, the amount could be so small as to be meaningless. The term "5-androstane-3B, 17~~2~~1-diol" should be in claim 19, line 1 after "comprising" since claim 20 is directed to said compound.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 15-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Tindall patent of record taken with the Peat patent of record.

The Tindall at al patent teaches topical composition containing applicant's compound (see Col. 2, line 43 and Examples 1-8). The Peat patent teaches applicant's compound generically and in the form of a tablet or pill (Col. 2, line 49) or topical (Col. 2, line 52). The reference do not teach the specific compound in a tablet or pill form. Accordingly, one skilled in this art would be

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motivated to form a tablet or pill form of the compound in view of the Peat patent since both patents teach a common topical application of the compound.

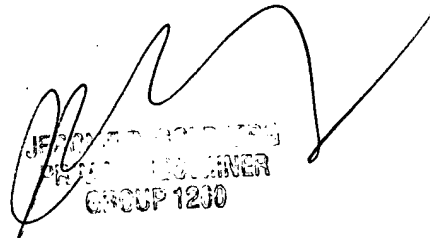
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to J.D. Goldberg whose telephone number is (703) 308-4606. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marianne Cintins, can be reached on (703) 308-4725. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

Goldberg:mv

March 9, 2001



JEFFREY A. GOLDBERG
PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 1230